



## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Giannini et al.

Examiner:

Wasylchak, S.

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence and the papers, as described hereinabove, are being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231. on March

Rennae Johns

## OFFICE ACTION RESPONSE

**Assistant Commissioner for Patents** Washington, D.C. 20231

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Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed December 20, 2001, please consider the following remarks.

## Remarks

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the following remarks. For the reasons set forth below, Applicant respectfully submits that the claimed invention is allowable over the cited references.

The Office Action mailed December 20, 2001, indicated that claims 1-16 stand rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by Hoffberg et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,875,108).

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claims 1-16. The § 102(b) rejection of the independent claims 1 and 6-8 is improper because the cited reference fails